

Rediscovery of Nearctic Invader *Euxesta notata* (Diptera: Ulidiidae) in Europe

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The genus *Euxesta* is a member of the tribe Lipsanini (= Euxestini auctt.) with more than hundred species occurring in the New World and Oceania, with mainly saprophylic larvae living in the rotting plant matter (Kameneva & Korneyev, 2010).

Euxesta notata (Wiedemann, 1830) originally known to occur in Canada and the United States (Steyskal, 1965) has been already recorded from Italy (Bezzi, 1922), but later that record was found to be based on misidentification of *E. pechumani* Curran, 1938, the species associated predominantly with rotting *Ulmus* trees, and established in Europe and Middle East two decades before it was described from New York City (Curran, 1938).

A time ago, two specimens collected in Switzerland were sent to us by Dr. Bernhard Merz (formerly Muséum d'histoire naturelle, Ville de Genève) for identification (Figs 1-3).

Euxesta notata (Wiedemann, 1830) (Figs 1-3)

Material. Switzerland, Genève, "ex larves sur oignons pourris éclos labo" [emerged from larvae in rotten onions in laboratory], 12.03 — 2.07.2009, 1 ♂, 1 ♀ (M. Martinez) (SIZK).

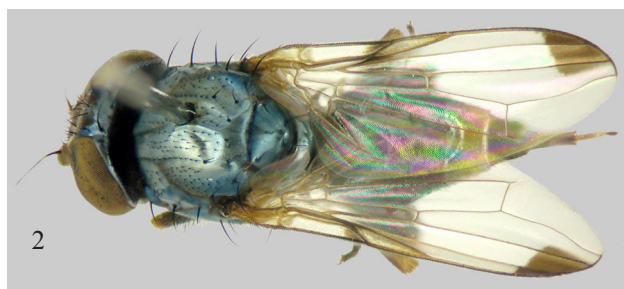
Biology poorly known. Larvae apparently saprophagous in decaying plant matter. A series of specimens from the USA (Michigan) was reared from rotten cherries infested by the fruit flies, and the two specimens from Switzerland were reared from rotten onions.

Bezzi, M. 1922. Un dittero nordamericano del gen. *Euxesta* stabilito in Italia. Bolletino del Laboratorio di Zoologia generale e agraria della R. Scuola superiore d'Agricoltura in Portici. 15: 223–226.

Curran, C. H. 1938. New American Diptera. *American Museum Novitates*, 975: 1–7.

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Steyskal G. C. 1965. Family Otitidae. In: Stone, A., Sabrosky, C. W., Wirth, W. W. et al. (Eds.). *A Catalog of the Diptera of America north of Mexico*. United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.: 642–654. (Handbook N 276).



Figs 1–3. *Euxesta notata*, ♀ (1–2) and ♂ (3) habitus: 1, 3 — lateral left view, 2 — dorsal view.